

TIVERTON HARBOR & COASTAL WATERS MANAGEMENT COMMISSION

343 HIGHLAND ROAD
TIVERTON, RI 02878

Meeting held January 7, 2008
At the Judson Street Town building

Members present: Roger Winiarski, John McEwing, Bob Dixon, Thomas Parker and David Stewart
Harbor Master: Phil LaPointe
Guests: Charlie Smith, Glenn Steckman, Kazem Farhoumand RIDOT, Tom Cunningham & Mark Greenleaf from Commonwealth Eng. Company, Kevin Cute CRMC.

Meeting came to order at 19:30

Motion was made to accept the minutes of the December meeting, John McEwing proposed, Roger seconded, all were in favor.

NEW BUSINESS :

Mr. Farhoumand from the RIDOT along with two representatives of Commonwealth Engineering Company were present to answer questions concerning the new Sakonnet River Bridge and any concerns the Harbor Commission had regarding it's impact on the waterfront and the surrounding area.

The Island in the middle of the parking lot and launching area was a concern to the Commission but it is necessary as designed to accommodate the drainage system for the bridge.

Depth at the North side of the bulkhead should be sufficient for the size and type of boat using the new ramp. Dredging could be a consideration but the cost is a big concern. It was felt that 4.5 feet at low tide was expected and this seemed to be adequate.

Parking of over flow traffic in an area off Evans Ave. was discussed and it seemed realistic that there would be space available once the new bridge was constructed. The cost of creating a proper parking lot was a concern to the DOT Representatives but Glenn felt that money maybe available from the DEM, Division of Fish and Wildlife for such a project. The

Commission will look into how we shall approach the DEM for suggestions and direction.

No Picnic Tables----the Harbor Commission was informed that the symbols looking like picnic tables were in fact supports and or drainage for the bridge and no picnic tables are planned.

The number of spaces for Handicap Parking in the trailer parking area is a concern and the Reps. from Commonwealth Eng. were going to look into what is required and what if any options may exist as to their location.

The question of whether the Tiverton Police can issue parking tickets on Riverside Drive was addressed. Being a State road, this does not come within the jurisdiction of the Town department but it appears there maybe something the Town can do to control illegal parking. Glenn suggested that the Harbor Commission speak with the Police Chief.

Bob Dixon suggested that a weight limit be posted on the launching ramp to control the size of boat using the facility. Tom Cunningham was going to check into what that weight might actually be.

Plenty of "International Signage" should be used indicating parking, launching etc. based on the knowledge that many of those using the facility may not read English.

Commonwealth Eng. was asked to look into the possibility of parking along Riverside Drive on the Eastern side, in front of the large proposed parking area across from 169 Riverside Drive. In the present plan, it appears there is space that is not being used.

Clearance under the new bridge was discussed and according to USCG regulations, there will be 65' from the mean high tide mark for a span of over 200 feet.

Channel markers are needed to designate the proper channel in the area of the old railroad bridge. Reports were given where boats have hit submerged rocks and considerable damage has occurred.

Lighting will be in place at both the launching ramp and the large parking lot.

Kevin Cute--- CRMC Marine Resource Specialist addressed the Harbor Commission on how we must up-date our current Harbor Management Plan and he is available to assist us this winter to make sure it is done properly and on time. John feels that most of what is required is on a

disc that can be up-dated quickly and easily. It was proposed that Kevin be added to all Harbor Commission communications, which has been done. John was also going to e-mail Kevin information available on the status of the sewage systems along Riverside Drive.

John was also going to write to Grover, the Director at CRMC and ask to be included in any correspondence, which CRMC may have concerning issues in Tiverton.

ELECTION OF OFFICERS :

Bob Dixon nominated John for Chairman, Roger seconded, the vote was unanimous.

John proposed Tom Parker for Vice-Chairman, David Stewart seconded, the vote was unanimous.

John proposed David Stewart as Secretary, Bob Dixon seconded, the vote was unanimous. Mr. Stewart accepted the appointment but will resign from this position at the end June 2008.

HARBOR MASTER REPORT:

Phil reported that the boat was out of the water around the second week of December and presently at Don's Marine. The boat will be stored for the winter at the fire station on Crandall Road and can be used for emergency work if required. The boat logged 170 hours of operation this past season.

Mooring permits should be mailed out in February. It was strongly felt by all that some teeth must be put in our renewal policy. At the moment it is too soft and there is no urgency for mooring holders to renew. Other towns impose fines and after a short period will haul or re-assign the location to the next on the waiting list.

The Harbor Master's new e-mail address is harbormaster@tiverton.ri.gov

A motion was made to adjourn at 21:28, John seconded, and it passed unanimously.

The next meeting of the Tiverton Harbor Commission will be held Monday Feb. 4, 2008 at 7:30 at the Community Center on Judson Street